

In the Claims

Please consider claims 1-21 as presented below:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein said heating step is carried out in a furnace.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 20, wherein a coating (5) of filler metal is applied to, or deposited around the end of said tube and the end of the tube is then inserted into said hole.
7. (Canceled).
8. (Canceled).
9. (Canceled).
10. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein the end of said tube is tapered.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein the end of said tube is inserted into said hole so as to protrude into the inside of said tubular part a distance of from 1 to 3 mm.

13. (Currently Amended) A brazing process to join two metal parts (1, 11), said metal parts including a stopper (11) and a tubular manifold (1) having an end with an opening, wherein said stopper is brazed to close the open end (12) of said tubular manifold (1), said stopper having an internal face (15) provided with a housing (19) formed in the external edge (13) of the stopper and surrounding the internal face (15), the housing configured to receive a filler metal (18), said process comprising:

positioning [of] a portion of filler metal (18) on the stopper in housing (19);
fixedly aligning the metal parts to be joined, wherein said internal face (15) and the filler metal (18) are both [is] positioned inside said tubular manifold (1) prior to melting; and
heating said metal parts (1, 11) to a temperature at which the filler metal (18) melts and is contained entirely within the tubular manifold, thereby forming a bond between the stopper and the internal surface of the adjacent manifold.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 13, wherein said positioning of a filler metal (18) includes holding the filler metal (18) in proximity to the junction to be brazed by a plurality of projections (20) formed on the internal face (15) proximate the edge (13) of the housing (19) of the stopper.

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 13, wherein a portion of the housing (19) includes a step (14) that is inserted in said tubular manifold, wherein said step (14) forms a junction that is in contact with an internal surface (17) of the manifold to be brazed.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 13 wherein, the metal parts to be joined are parts of a towel-rack radiator.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Presently Amended) A brazing process to join two metal parts, said metal parts including (i) a tube (3) (1) having an end (4) and (ii) a tubular metal part (1) (3) delimiting an internal cavity, and the tubular metal part having a lateral wall (2) with an inner wall surface, ~~at least one~~ a hole in the lateral wall (2) communicating with said internal cavity, said hole configured to receive the end (4) of tube (3) in close-fitting relation, a brazing filler metal in the form of a preformed metal wire ring (6) being positioned around the end of said tube (3) in a groove (17) formed in the tube, ~~wherein the end (4) of said tube (1) is brazed into said hole~~ the process comprising the steps of:

~~positioning of a brazing filler metal (5, 6) on the end (4) of said tube (3);~~

fixedly aligning the metal parts to be joined with the portion of the metal tube (3) with said filler metal (6) positioned within said internal cavity of tubular metal part (1) and proximate the inner wall surface, prior to melting;

heating said metal parts to a temperature at which the filler metal melts,

whereby a brazed joint is formed between the two metal parts.

21. (Presently Amended) A brazing process to join two metal parts, said metal parts including (i) a tube (3) (1) having an end (4) and (ii) a tubular metal part (1) (3) delimiting an internal cavity, the tubular metal part having a lateral wall (2) with an inner wall surface, at least one hole in the lateral wall (2) communicating with said internal cavity configured to receive the end (4) of tube (3) in close-fitting relation, wherein the end (4) of said tube (1) is brazed into said hole, the process comprising the steps of:

positioning a brazing filler metal (5,6) on the end (4) of said tube (3);

fixedly aligning the metal parts to be joined with the portion of the metal tube (3) (1) with said filler metal positioned within said internal cavity proximate the inner wall surface of tubular member (1) [,] prior to melting;

reconfiguring the shape of refashioning the end of the metal tube (3) after it has been inserted into the hole;

heating said metal parts to a temperature at which the filler metal melts,

whereby the two metal parts are joined by a brazed joint [is] formed between the two metal parts.